

MINUTES

OF THE

EIGHTEENTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

Chickasaw Baptist Association

HELD WITH THE

PLEASANT RIDGE CHURCH,

TIPPAAH COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI,

ON THE 19TH, 20TH, 21ST AND 22D DAYS OF SEPT., 1856.

MEMPHIS:

EAGLE AND ENQUIRER STEAM PRINTING HOUSE, 301 MAIN STREET.

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MINUTES.

PLEASANT RIDGE, TIPPAAH COUNTY, MISS., }
September 19, 1856. }

The delegates composing the Chickasaw Association assembled with the Pleasant Ridge Church, on Friday before the thrid Sabbath in September, 1856.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder M. P. Lowry, from the 3d chapter of 1st John, and 18th verse: "My little children let us not love in word, neither in tongue, but in deed and in truth."

The congregation was then dismissed until 3 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment; prayer by Elder A. Godwin; and was called to order by its former Moderator, assisted by its former Clerk.

Elders A. H. Booth and L. Ball were appointed Reading Clerks.

The letters from the several Churches were called for in regular order, read and delegates' names enrolled.

Petitionary letters were called for, and petitions from the following Churches were presented, praying admittance into this body, viz: Corinth, Liberty Hill and Meadow Creek—letters read, and the right hand of fellowship extended to their delegates.

The Association then proceeded to the election of Moderator and Clerk, which resulted in the choice of Elder M. Ball, Moderator, and W. J. Riddle, Clerk, and Elijah Smyth Assistant Clerk.

The Moderator then appointed the following Committees:

On Preaching:—Allen Adkins, J. O. Nelson, H. S. Plant, with the Deacons of this Church.

On Arrangements:—Elders A. Ray, E. Rogers, A. H. Booth, R. H. Boon and R. Golding.

Correspondence was then called for.

Brother W. A. Pledge presented himself with a letter of correspondence from the Big Hatchie Association.

Brother J. Carlton presented himself with a letter of correspondence from the Judson Association, and brother T. H. Smyth was re-

ceived as a messenger from the Cold Water Association, and Elder W. M. Farrar was received as a messenger from the Baptist State Convention.

Elders John Bateman and J. G. Burgess, and all visiting brethren from other Associations, were invited to seats with us, and to assist in the deliberations of this body.

Prayer by the Moderator.

The Association then adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

SATURDAY MORNING, Sept. 20.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment; prayer by Elder W. M. Farrar.

Called for the report of the committee on Arrangements. Elder A. Ray, chairman of said committee, presented said report, which was read and adopted, and committee discharged.

Read Constitution and Rules of Decorum.

Called for the fellowship of the body, whereupon the complaint from the Ripley Church against the Macedonia Church was taken up, and after some discussion, a committee of five was appointed, viz: Elders A. Ray, A. H. Booth and J. H. Berry, N. L. Ward and Fenton Hall, to whom the matter was referred with request to report at as early a period as possible.

Appointed a committee on Finance, viz: Elder L. Ball, D. Potter and N. L. Ward.

Appointed a committee on Documents, viz: Elders W. H. Holcombe, O. D. Fitzgerald and M. P. Lowry.

The following Standing committees were appointed, to report at this and the next annual session of this body;

On Foreign Missions:—Elders A. H. Booth, James Boswell and L. Ball.

On Domestic Missions:—Elders W. H. Holcombe, A. Ray and J. T. Pitts.

On Education:—John Volentine, B. T. Belcher and L. Ball.

On the Bible Cause:—Elder M. P. Lowry, E. Smythe and R. L. Ray.

On Temperance:—J. D. Rogers, F. J. Holmes and L. J. Pratt.

On the Religious Instruction of the Colored Population:—Elders W. H. Holcombe, H. G. Spencer and S. H. Piant.

On Sunday Schools:—Dr. J. Hodges, A. Adkins, N. Verner and J. H. Berry.

Correspondence was then appointed to the following Religious

the Panola Association: J. V. Neeley and O. P. Short.

the Big Hatchie Association: J. Volentine, R. L. Ray, O. D. Fitzgerald, W. H. Holcombe and A. Ray.

To the Cold Water Association: J. D. Rogers, C. G. Blount, John Sherman, M. Mattocks, B. T. Belcher, L. Ball, E. Smyth and J. T. Pitts.

To the Aberdeen Association: M. Ball, W. H. Holcombe, A. H. Booth, Joshua Smyth, Isaac Smyth, W. C. Wood and R. Giddings.

To the Big Bear Creek Association: J. P. Gray and P. Skelly.
 To the Judson Association: M. P. Lowry, J. D. Rogers, J. Boswell, J. T. Pitts, S. H. Plant, M. Mattocks, E. Smyth, Joshua Smyth, L. Ball and M. Ball.

To the Baptist State Convention: M. Ball, W. H. Holcombe, L. Ball, J. Boswell, M. P. Lowry, A. H. Booth, A. Ray and E. Smyth.
 Appointed the following brethren to write corresponding letters:

To the Panolo Association: M. P. Lowry.

To the Big Hatchie Association: O. D. Fitzgerald.

To the Cold Water Association: L. Ball.

To the Aberdeen Association: E. Smyth.

To the Big Bear Creek Association: J. T. Pitts.

To the Judson Association: B. T. Belcher.

To the Baptist State Convention: W. H. Holcombe.

Elder W. H. Holcombe was elected to preach the next introductory sermon, and L. Ball his alternate.

Elder L. Ball was elected to preach the next Missionary sermon, and Elder W. H. Holcombe his alternate.

Prayer by Elder James Boswell.

Adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment; prayer by Elder P. Skelly.

Reports were again called for.

The Report of the Committee on the Ripley and Macedonia churches was presented, read, and adopted, and the Committee discharged. See Appendix, No. 1.

The grievance from the Union and Hopewell churches was taken up, and after full discussion, the following Preamble and Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, a committee was appointed at our last session to visit Union church, and an excluded party, and if possible to adjust the differences existing between them: Therefore,

Resolved, That this Association had no intention in the appointment of said committee to infringe upon the internal rights of said church, but simply to advise, under the 8th article of the Constitution.

Adjourned until Monday morning, 8 o'clock; prayer by Elder A. Ray.

SUNDAY MORNING, Sept. 21.

At a very early hour there was a large congregation assembled at the stand, which was occupied in the following order; at 9 o'clock by W. M. Farrar, from the 133rd Psalm, 1st verse—"Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

At 11 o'clock Elder W. H. Holcombe preached the annual Missionary Sermon from Revelations, 14th chapter and 6th verse—"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to them that dwell upon the earth, and

to every nation, and kindred and tongue and people;" at the close of which a collection was taken, amounting to \$58 00.

At 3 o'clock, by Elder John Bateman, from the 9th chapter of Ecclesiastes and a part of the 3rd verse—"Madness is in their heart while they live;" and at night by Elder M. Ball, from the last word in the New Testament—"Amen."

There was much feeling and great interest manifested in the congregation during the day and at night, and we trust that great and lasting benefits will result from that day's labor.

MONDAY MORNING, Sept. 22.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment; prayer by brother Stephen White.

The present Executive Board was re-elected by acclamation, viz: J. H. Berry, E. Smyth, J. O. Nelson, G. V. Gambrell and R. H. Gibson.

Called for Reports.

Elder A. H. Booth presented the report of the Committee on Foreign Missions, which was read and adopted. See Appendix, No. 2.

Elder W. M. Farrar, agent of the Foreign Mission Board, was invited to present the claims of said Board to this body, which he did in a very forcible speech; at the close of which a collection was taken, amounting to \$32 30.

Elder W. H. Holcombe presented the report of the Committee on Documents, read, and adopted. See Appendix, No. 3.

Elder L. Ball presented the report of the Finance Committee, read and adopted. See Appendix, No. 4.

Bro. Joel H. Berry, Chairman of the Executive Board, presented their report; read and adopted, and ordered to be spread upon the Minutes. See Appendix, No. 5.

Bro. John D. Rogers presented the report of the Committee on Temperance, read and adopted. See Appendix, No. 6.

Bro. James Hodges presented the report of the Committee on Sunday Schools, read and adopted. See Appendix, No. 7.

The Committee appointed to write Corresponding Letters, presented them, which were read and adopted, and committee discharged.

Elder A. H. Booth was appointed agent to raise a building fund, to build a Baptist Church in the town of Corinth, in Tishomingo County, Miss; a subscription was then taken for the above object of \$156 00.

Adjourned until 2 o'clock: prayer by the Moderator.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment; prayer by Elder J. H. Prescott.

Called again for Reports.

Elder L. Ball presented the Report of the committee on Education, read, and adopted. See Appendix, No. 8.

Brother E. Smyth, Treasurer, presented his Report, read and adopted. See Appendix, No. 9.

Granted a letter of dismission to Camp Creek church.

Granted a letter of dismission to Mt. Zion church.

The Association went into an election of ten Trustees for the Mary Washington College, which resulted in the choice of W. J. Riddle, J. S. Cobb, C. G. Mitchel, W. H. Holcombe, J. B. Herring, M. Ball, S. H. Plant, H. T. Pitts, R. H. Gibson, and A. Ray.

Appointed the following brethren a Committee to petition the Domestic Board, at Marion, for aid to sustain a minister at Corinth, viz: M. P. Lowery, Dr. Henry Howard, and R. H. Gibson,

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That this Association endorse the Great Iron Wheel, by Rev. J. R. Graves, believing it to be a faithful exposition of Methodism.

Resolved, That we recommend all our brethren and friends to purchase and read the Iron Wheel, Theadosia, Ernest, and Orchard's history.

Resolved, That we earnestly request all the Churches composing this body to authorise their delegates to pledge whatever amount they are willing to pay for our Home Missions, for the purpose of saving the time and expense of agents.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body is hereby tendered to the brethren and friends of Pleasant Ridge and vicinity, for their hospitality towards this body during its present session.

Resolved, That the brother Clerk be requested to superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes, and that he receive fifteen dollars for his services.

Resolved, That Elder L. Ball be appointed to distribute the Minutes in the 1st district, and Elder A. H. Booth in the 3rd district and the Clerk in the 2nd district.

After some very feeling remarks by the Moderator, a parting hymn was sung and in the midst of deep religious feeling the Association adjourned to meet with the Canaan Church, twenty miles northwest of Ripley, on the Lagrange Road, Friday before the third Sabbath in September, 1857.

W. J. RIDDLE, Clerk.

M. BALL, Moderator.



APPENDIX.

APPENDIX No. 1.

The committee to whom was referred the documents in relation to the difficulty between the Ripley and Macedonia churches, have had the same under consideration and beg leave to Report

That, in their opinion, no church has the right to receive a member from a sister church while said member is under censure, and your committee therefore recommend the Association to advise the Macedonia Church to rescind her act, in receiving the member complained of; all of which is respectfully submitted.

A. RAY, Chairman.

APPENDIX No. 2.

Your Committee on Foreign Missions would respectfully report—
That the importance of this department of our missionary labor cannot be fully set before our churches in the space usually allowed for a report of this character, your Committee must therefore content themselves with a brief synoptical view of the subject. We have a vast field to occupy in this department of labor—China, with her 350,000,000, and Africa, with her one hundred and fifty or two hundred millions, making a population of at least five hundred millions, and we have only about forty-one missionaries, including some native assistance. Ought we not to pray the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into his vineyard; but stop! ought we to offer this prayer till we give better evidence of our willingness to support them when sent? We think not. Since the last annual report of the Board shows that only \$26,503 84 were received during the last financial year, ending the first of April last, the Board complains of being very much crippled in her energies for want of the necessary means to carry out her plans. The Baptists of the South and Southwest are not paying quite five cents a piece for this great and glorious object; not but what some are giving much more than that, yet the masses are doing absolutely nothing. This ought not so to be. Ought not \$100 to be raised here to-day for this purpose? Has not our Blessed Savior commanded us to preach the Gospel to every creature; and if we cannot go in person and proclaim these good tidings ourselves, can we not as effectually obey this injunction by assisting those who can go, and especially those who have gone, and are now proclaiming to them the unsearchable riches of Christ.

Will you let our beloved Brother Gilliard, who went out from our midst, with whom we are all more or less acquainted, appeal to us in vain for help? Or what shall we say in reply to the pathetic appeals made to us by our dear brother Priest, who went out from an adjoining county. Let us respond liberally to the urgent appeals of these brethren and of the Board, and make glad their hearts by a liberal contribution.

We cannot better close this report than by giving the recapitulation found at the close of the last annual report of the Board. "From the brief survey thus taken the Board find encouragement to prosecute their work with renewed vigor. They have three missions in great nations, comprising nearly one half of the world's population, with twenty-one stations, and, including those in this country who are expected to leave for their field, forty-one missionaries and assistants. About ninety have been baptized during this year. Shall we not thank God and take courage? Will not the churches require, and enable the Board to give a largely increased dissemination to that Gospel "which is the wisdom of God and the power of God unto salvation." So may it be.

Respectfully submitted,

A. H. BOOTH, Chairman.

APPENDIX No. 3.

The committee on Documents beg leave to report—

That we think it necessary to have published in our Minutes the same portions of the minutes of the District meetings that have heretofore been published. We wish to call special attention to a communication from Corinth church. All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. H. HOLCOMBE, Chairman.

UNION MEETING; 1st District.

This Meeting will be held with the Philadelphia Church and will commence on Thursday before the 1st Sabbath in August, 1857; Elder, L. Ball to preach the Introductory Sermon, Elder E. Brown, his alternate.

Elder M. Ball to preach a sermon to Ministers and Deacons, Elder J. Boswell his alternate. Following brethren to write essays:

Elder L. Ball, on Church Fellowship.

" M. Ball on A Call to the Ministry.

" J. Boswell on Importance of Family Prayer.

" J. T. Pitts on Faith.

Bro. N. M. Berry on Danger of Professors of Religion conforming to the World.

" H. T. Pitts on Benevolence.

" M. F. Berry on Importance of sustaining the Missionary Cause.

Brother E. Smyth on Relative Duties of Church Members.

" L. J. Pratt on Temperance.

" J. B. Herring on Duty of Masters to Servants.

" D. Potter on Communion.

" N. L. Ward on Final Perseverance of the Saints.

UNION MEETING; 2d District.

This meeting will be held with the Beulah Church and will commence on Thursday before the 2nd Sabbath in August, 1857; Elder H. F. Lipford to preach the Introductory sermon, Elder J. H. Prescott his alternate.

Following brethren to write essays:

Elder H. G. Spencer on Perseverance of the Saints.

" H. F. Lipford on Mode of Baptism.

Brother J. G. Campbell on Ministerial Education.

" H. Y. Riddle on Importance of Prayer.

Appointed the next Association to be held with the Canaan Church, commencing on Friday before the 3rd Sabbath in September, 1857.

UNION MEETING; 3rd District.

This meeting will be held with the Rienzi Church, Tishomingo county, Miss., and will commence on Thursday before the 3rd Sabbath in August, 1857; Elder R. L. Dann to preach the Introductory sermon, Elder H. G. Savage his alternate.

Elder M. P. Lowry to preach a sermon appropriate to Ministers and Deacons.

Following brethren to write essays:

Elder A. H. Booth on Election.

" O. D. Fitzgerald on Duty of Parents to their Children.

" M. P. Lowry on Utility of Sabbath Schools.

" R. L. Dann on Is Total Abstinence a Christian Duty.

" H. G. Savage on Ministerial Education.

Brother J. G. Lowrey on Study of the Holy Bible—a Christian duty.

" W. C. T. Wooten on Duty of Churches to their Pastors.

" W. A. Davis on Final Perseverance of the Saints.

" H. C. Parker on Resurrection of the body.

" W. D. Kennel on Brotherly Love.

" B. T. Belcher on Utility of Prayer Meetings.

" W. W. Roberson on Salvation.

" C. B. Potts on Observance of the Sabbath.

APPENDIX No. 4.

The Committee on Finance beg leave to report—	
Received for Printing Minutes,.....	\$82 35
Public collection on Sabbath,.....	58 00
All of which is respectfully submitted.	

L. BALL, Chairman.

APPENDIX No. 5.

The Executive Board beg leave to report—
That they succeeded in securing the services of brother M. P.

Lowry, as missionary, to labor in the second and third Districts; and brother James Boswell a portion of his time, as missionary, in the first District. They distributed a considerable number of Bibles, Testaments, and religious books, and we humbly trust their labors have been owned and blessed of God. The luminous report of bro. Lowry is in the following language, to wit:

"Dear Brethren: I respectfully submit the following as a partial report of my labors as missionary the past associational year. According to your directions my time has been employed in the second and third districts. I have visited all the churches and missionary stations in said districts except two, and have supplied three stations monthly, and preached at some other destitute places as I could find time to do so. I have also held, and assisted in holding, several protracted meetings, where it has been my happy privilege to witness a goodly number of conversions, and a general interest both amongst christians and sinners. I have distributed all the books and tracts committed to my charge, with the exception of a very small remnant. I feel that God has blessed my weak and imperfect efforts at the three stations above alluded to. The Harmony church—one of my stations—has increased considerably, and I think is now able to sustain a pastor without any further aid from the Board. Churches are organized at the other two stations, viz: "Corinth" and "Meadow Creek," and there is a good prospect for both, with the proper culture, to become large and efficient churches, but they are yet tender plants.

"While writing this report, in recounting the labors and trials of two years past as missionary, I realize feelings of profound gratitude to God. The sacrifices and trials have been great, but I will not complain, for I not only feel thankful for the privilege of making sacrifices for Him, who has given himself for me, but in my meditations upon the results of my imperfect labors, there is a rich reward: and from this source they may receive comfort, whose liberalities have supported the work. In the two years four churches have been organized, whose light is not under a bushel; and which have already been a great blessing to the neighborhoods in which they are located. It has been my happy privilege to baptize many members, who are now active and efficient, and among the number several young men, whose piety and intellect would insure respect any where, and some

of them, like Jeremiah of old, have the "word of God in their hearts as a burning fire shut up in their bones, and are weary of forbearing," and doubtless God designs to use them, as instruments in his hands, for the accomplishment of much good. Many of God's ministers who now stand upon the walls of Zion, were brought in by missionary operations, and if it be his good pleasure to bring in others the same way, we will all doubtless enjoy the blessing with grateful hearts. *To God be all the glory!*

M. P. LOWRY."

It will be remembered, that two of the churches alluded to in the above report, viz: "Corinth" and "Meadow Creek," have been received by the Association, during its present session, as constituent members of our body. The former is at a very important point and that both should be nurtured and sustained, none, we presume, can doubt. Your Board take pleasure in bearing testimony to the zeal and energy with which brother Lowry has prosecuted his labor of love. We trust he will receive his reward on high.

Brother Boswell has been equally faithful and energetic in the field of labor assigned to him, and we hope will receive a like reward. According to his report, he has assisted in holding four protracted meetings, preached thirty-eight sermons, delivered a number of exhortations and missionary lectures, baptized six persons, rode six or seven hundred miles, and sold books to the amount of \$66 65. Brother B. closes his report in the following language—"Suffer me to recommend to your serious consideration, the South-western portion of our Association as a promising field for missionary operations. Here we have a portion of country, twenty-five or thirty miles square, with a dense population, and but one Baptist minister; and there is a probability of its being left entirely destitute. Measures should be adopted for occupying this field as early as possible." To this recommendation of our devoted missionary, we hope your future Board will give a most hearty response.

In addition to the labors of those two brethren, we have had the services of brother H. C. Spencer, at New Harmony church, where he has done good and efficient work. We also had the pleasure to secure the services of our venerable brother, A. Ray, and brother H. F. Lipford, occupying one station each, both of whom have generously donated their labors to the Board. We trust that their liberality will not be forgotten, and that they will receive a higher and more enduring reward, than we can give them.

By reference to the Treasurer's Report, it will be perceived that our funds for Domestic Missions have increased. And may the Lord grant that the liberality of our beloved brethren may be rewarded, by an increase in all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus.

Now brethren, the result of another year's labor is before you, and is humbly committed to Him, without whose blessing, all our work will be in vain. Ten years have passed their rapid rounds since some of us first became connected with the Executive Board. Those years have been loaded with fearful responsibilities. None but God can estimate the results, either of our labor or our neglect.

If the cause of our blessed Redeemer has suffered by our indifference or inefficiency, we implore his forgiveness. If, on the other hand, any good has been done through our feeble instrumentality, we desire with a deep sense of our unworthiness, to cast ourselves at his feet, and from the deep recesses of our hearts exclaim, "NOT UNTO US, NOT UNTO US, BUT UNTO THY GREAT NAME BE ALL THE GLORY."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOEL H. BERRY, Chairman.

APPENDIX No. 6.

Your Committee on Temperance beg leave to report—

That among the various interests which are claiming the attention of the denomination, the promotion of the cause of Temperance should by no means be neglected. The evils Intemperance scatters broadcast over our land are everywhere visible—affecting by their poisonous sting almost every family; and philanthropy, to say nothing of religion, most imperatively demands that instrumentalities should be put in operation to secure their diminution and abatement. And as it has been repeatedly charged that the Baptist denomination has been largely accessory to the production of these evils, and has failed unanimously to direct the might of its extending influence against their multiplication, your committee would recommend that the encouragement of this noble enterprise for man's amelioration be commended to the prayerful consideration of each individual whose name appears on the rolls of the church, and would rejoice in the realization of the heart-cheering fact that the "wasting and destruction" of intemperance are no longer heard in our borders, and that its blighting curse no longer afflicts our common heritage. The necessity of some action on this momentous subject is apparent from the mortifying fact that the too frequent use of the "liquid fire" has been the fruitful source of church trials and church difficulties—the non-existence of which would emancipate our beloved Zion from much of the reproach and malediction which are hurled against it.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN D. RODGERS, Chairman.

APPENDIX No. 7.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools beg leave to report—

That it needs no argument to convince a reflecting mind of the importance and necessity of furnishing the youth of every community with the means of religious knowledge; by the use of which means the depraved human heart may be so far modified as to be made the receptacle of the seeds of virtue. The enemy of souls loses no opportunity to scatter the seeds of vice and immorality among the young; and to counteract his wily schemes it is highly

requisite that opposing influences should be put to work, and, if possible, the first impression made in favor of the truth as it is in Christ Jesus. Let Truth and Error be placed on the same footing and the result of the contest need not be feared, much less need it be feared when the ground has been pre-occupied and fortified against the author of mischief and misery.

Your Committee would recommend to the lovers of our common Lord, the establishment of Sabbath Schools, at such places as convenience may dictate, as an efficient instrument to impress images of beauty, loveliness and virtue, upon the tender heart, and to prepare the rising generation for the early reception of the blessed truths of the Gospel, so that they would press to the portals of the church, like doves to their windows.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. HODGES, Chairman.

The following Resolution was annexed:

Resolved, That more effectually to carry out the above report, we recommend that each Pastor of the several churches propose the organization of a Sabbath School at each church.

APPENDIX No. 8.

Your Committee on Education beg leave to report—

That in view of the great importance of this subject, we feel painfully conscious of our inability to present it in such a light as it might be, had we more time to bestow upon it. However, we feel assured that this Association highly appreciates and most heartily approves our denominational efforts to originate and sustain schools of high character, both Male and Female. We, however, lament to learn that the Mary Washington College is not being patronized according to the ability of the four different Associations which have assumed its guardianship. We would, in consideration of this fact, urge upon our brethren to send their daughters, at the opening of the Fall session, and aid in building up a Female College in our midst that will be an honor to our denomination and a blessing to our race. We feel justified, from the report of the Board of Visitors who attended the last examination, and from other reliable sources of information, in saying that the Mary Washington still offers great inducements to those who are disposed to send their daughters there. Rev. John Bateman, President, aided by competent teachers, gave full satisfaction to the Trustees and Patrons of the College, last session, and we have no doubt will still use every effort to discharge, faithfully, the responsible duties devolving upon them.

We would also recommend our brethren to send their sons to Clinton, Miss., and Murfreesboro', Tenn., to be educated. Our denomination, at great expense, has founded Union University, at Murfreesboro', and the Baptist College, at Clinton, and we should sustain them. Our future prosperity is in a great measure connected

with our Schools. Other denominations are awake to their interests in regard to schools, and they are manifesting a zeal which threatens a universal monopoly in controlling the schools of the country. Shall Baptists sleep until their last hope of usefulness in this great cause is gone? May the Great Head of the church forbid it.

In conclusion, brethren, if you do not support your own schools, other denominations will not do it for you.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. S. VALENTINE, Chairman.

APPENDIX No. 9.

E. Smyth, Treasurer, in account with the Chickasaw Baptist Association.

1855.		DOMESTIC MISSIONS.		\$	cts.	Dr.
Sept. 15th.	Amount as per last report,.....			152	99	
June, 7, '56.	Hopewel Church.....			6	00	
Sept. 18.	Liberty Church, old subscription....				50	
"	McGilead.....			4	75	
"	New Hope.....			9	00	
"	Cherry Creek.....			10	00	
"	M. P. Lowry, sale of books.....			40	00	
"	J. Boswell, sale of books and public collection.....			142	05	
"	M. P. Lowry, sale of Hymn books....			19	00	
"	M. P. Lowry, sale of books.....			448	73	\$38 429
"	G. V. Gambrell, sale of books.....			1	00	
"	E. Smyth, sale of books.....			9	60	
"	A. Ray, subscription.....			10	00	
"	R. L. Ray ".....			10	00	
"	H. Garrett ".....			5	00	
"	R. C. Horton ".....			2	00	
"	J. E. Woods, ".....			5	00	
"	E. Mauldin * ".....			3	00	
"	J. T. Pitts ".....			5	00	
"	W. H. Funk ".....			5	00	
"	J. Davis, ".....			5	00	
"	D. Potter ".....			5	00	
"	W. Alexander ".....			2	00	
"	F. Hall ".....			10	00	
"	J. J. Andrews ".....			2	50	
"	L. Ball ".....			5	00	
"	E. Browning ".....			5	00	
				538 83		
						\$923 12

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Sept. 18.	Amount brought forward.....		\$923 12
"	Isaac Smith, subscription,	5 00	
"	W. C. Simmons "	10 00	
"	W. Jacks "	5 00	
"	L. J. Pratt, "	2 00	
"	M. Ball "	10 00	
"	G. V. Gambrell, "	10 00	
"	J. D. Rogers "	10 00	
"	J. O. Nelson "	10 00	
"	J. Boswell "	5 00	
"	A. W. Berryman "	2 00	
Sept 22d.	Half of public collection on Sabbath,	29 00	
			<u>98 00</u>

\$1,021 12

Cr. -

March 19, '56	Cash paid Smith and Whilden.....	127 00	
June, 7,	Cash paid Bible House, New York.	78 14	
Sept. 19.	Cash paid J. Boswell, missionary...	80 00	
"	Uncurrent funds.....	2 00	
"	Expenses on books.....	4 92	
"	Cash paid M. P. Lowry, missionary.	300 00	
"	Cash paid Smith & Whilden, Charles-		
"	ton.....	61 55	
"	H. C. Spencer, missionary.....	7 00	
			<u>\$660 61</u>

Due by Treasurer.....\$360 51

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Dr.

Sept. 14, '55.	As per last report.....	35 95	
Sept. 18, '56.	M. P. Lowry.....	40	
"	Cherry Creek Church.....	4 50	
			<u>\$40 85</u>

Cr.

Sept. 19, '55.	Paid A. H. Booth and M. P. Lowry,		
	by order of Association.....	40 00	\$40 00

Due by Treasurer.....85

INDIAN EDUCATION.

Dr.

Sept. 18, '54-5.	As per last report.....	52 15	
			<u>\$52 15</u>

Cr.

Sept. 20.	Paid J. H. Berry to forward to pro-		
	per destination.....	50 00	
			<u>\$50 00</u>

Due by the Treasurer.....\$2 15

APPENDIX.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

	As per last report.....	31 07	Dr.
Sept. 20, '56.	M. P. Lowry.....	2 50	
"	Cherry Creek Church.....	1 00	
"	J. H. Berry.....	4 00	
Sept. 21.	Fourth public collection on Sabbath	14 50	
			\$53 07
May, '56.	Paid to Convention, as per receipt of Treasurer.....	31 07	Cr.
Sept. 22.	By cash paid Wm. M. Farrer.....	22 00	
			\$53 07
	Due by Treasurer.....		00 00

INDIAN MISSIONS.

1855.	As per last report.....	33 17	Dr.
Sept. 22, '56.	M. P. Lowry.....	6 80	
"	J. H. Berry.....	4 00	
"	Fourth public collection on Sabbath	14 50	
			\$58 47
May, '56.	As per receipt of Treasurer of State Convention.....	33 17	Cr.
			\$33 17
	Due by Treasurer.....		\$25 30

AFRICAN MISSION.

Sept. 14, '55.	As per last report.....	2 00	Dr.
Sept. 20, '56.	M. P. Lowry.....	1 40	
			\$3 40
"	Cash paid Wm. M. Farrer.....	3 40	Cr.
			\$3 40
	Due by Treasurer.....		\$0 00

Balance on hand.....	\$387 96
Books unsold.....	\$40 70

Respectfully submitted,

ELIJAH SMYTH, Treas.

Contributions by the Churches through our missionaries:

For Domestic Missions, by M. P. Lowry.

Amount collected on subscription taken at Association in	\$	cts.
1855.....		
Piney Grove church.....	153	00
Hopewell church.....	2	15
Mt. Comfort church.....	17	35
Macedonia.....	3	25
Rienzi church.....	2	25
Antioch.....	10	95
Osborne's Creek church.....	10	00
Henkle's Creek church.....	2	95
Meadow church.....	6	46
Mt. Olive church.....	14	05
Yellow Creek church.....	6	70
Academy church.....	9	40
Harmony church.....	13	00
Bethlehem church.....	15	50
Canaan church.....	11	85
Fellowship church.....	14	10
Concord church.....	4	80
Union church.....	3	20
E. Fulsom church.....	11	60
	5	00
Total.....	\$317	56

For Domestic Missions, by J. Boswell.

Camp Creek church.....	3	00
Mt. Pleasant church.....	18	00
Liberty church.....	9	20
Bethel church.....	5	40
Washington church.....	2	50
Cypress Creek church.....	7	80
Amaziah church.....	5	50
Spring Creek church.....	5	80
Pleasant Ridge church.....	6	25
Philadelphia church.....	3	00
Friendship church.....	11	82
Total.....	78	47
Total for Domestic Missions.....	\$396	03

For Foreign Missions.....	2	50
For Indian ".....	6	80
For African ".....	1	40
For Bible Board.....	45	
Ministerial Education.....	40	

Whole amount collected..... \$407 58

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Martin Ball, Cherry Creek.	A. Godwin, Ripley.
J. Boswell, Tardyville.	A. H. Booth, Riensi.
A. Ray, Jonesboro'.	W. H. Holcombe, Ripley.
R. Nutt, Hickory Flat.	L. Ball, Cherry Creek.
J. C. Derryberry, Boneyard.	M. P. Lowry, Cross Ridge.
L. Flake, Riensi.	L. W. Bailey, Cornersville.
H. G. Spencer, Salem.	W. J. Thomas, Carrollville.
J. T. Pitts, Cherry Creek.	L. P. Lipford, Salem.
J. H. Prescott, Salem.	E. Browning, Pontotoc.
O. D. Fitzgerald, Kossuth.	J. P. Gray, Jacinto.
P. Skelly, Union Mills.	H. G. Savage, Riensi.
S. White, Waterford.	C. B. Walker, Spring Hill.
D. D. Roach, New Albany.	

LICENTIATES.

A. Butler, Boneyard.	J. Matthis, Ruckerville.
G. H. Savage, Riensi.	D. Potter, Tardyville.
L. Barnes, Dry Run.	W. S. Modlin, Farmington.
E. Massey, ———.	R. B. Maxey, Lafayette Springs.
J. D. Rodgers, Molino.	Isaac Smyth, Tardyville.
A. H. Archer, Black Land.	E. S. Hardwick, Jacinto.
J. H. McCulloch, Burnsville.	

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

J. H. Berry, J. O. Nelson, E. Smyth, G. V. Gambrell, R. H. Gibson.

TRUSTEES OF MARY WASHINGTON COLLEGE.

W. J. Riddle,	J. S. Cobb,	C. G. Mitchell,
W. H. Holcombe,	J. B. Herring,	M. Ball,
S. H. Plant,	H. T. Pitts,	A. Ray,
	R. H. Gibson.	

TIMES OF MEETING OF THE DIFFERENT BODIES WITH WHICH WE CORRESPOND.

Bear Creek Association, Friday before the 4th Sunday in September.

Panola Association, Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October.

Big Hatchie Association, Friday before the 3rd Sunday in July.

Cold Water Association, Friday before the 3rd Sunday in October.

Aberdeen Association, Thursday before the 2nd Sunday in October.

Judson Association, Friday before the 4th Sunday in October.

Baptist State Convention, Thursday before the 4th Sunday in May.

The next meeting of this body will be held with the Canaan Church, Tippah County, 20 miles North-west of Ripley, on the LaGrange Road, 12 miles from LaGrange.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1ST.—This Association shall be called the “CHICKASAW BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.”

ART. 2D.—It shall be composed of persons who have been duly elected delegates by the respective churches belonging to this union.

ART. 3D.—The delegates representing the different churches shall, at the opening of the association, present the letters specifying their appointment, and also showing the number baptised, received by letter, dismissed, excluded, restored, and dead, during the year, together with the whole number in fellowship.

ART. 4TH.—Every church belonging to this body, shall be entitled to three delegates until they number 100 members, and then one for each hundred above that number.

ART. 5TH.—Churches of this Union failing to represent themselves at one association, will be expected to state the reason of their failure at the next, and if any church fail for three successive meetings, the association may consider such church as dropped from its number, or shall have power to send a committee to enquire into its state, or proceed as the association may deem most advisable.

ART. 6TH.—New churches may be admitted into this union by signifying their wish by letter and delegates, provided they be deemed orthodox, and are willing to walk in fellowship with us.

ART. 7TH.—The association shall have a moderator and clerk, who shall be chosen at each annual meeting, so soon as letters from the churches are read, and members' names enrolled; PROVIDED, however, that nothing in this article be so construed as to prohibit churches petitioning for union with us, from voting by their delegates for moderator and clerk.

ART. 8TH.—This association shall have no power to adopt rules that shall at any time infringe upon the independence and rights of churches; it shall, however, be at liberty to advise churches belonging to it, or it may withdraw from such churches as are known to walk disorderly.

ART. 9TH.—The association shall have a fund for its expenses, and the churches shall be at liberty to send up such funds as they may think proper, either for foreign or domestic missions, for the bible or any other benevolent institution, and the association appoint one or more, to take charge of the same, and forward them as they may be designated, and report to the next association.

ART. 10TH.—Any church of this union having a difficulty that she cannot settle, may call help from other churches, or may present the case to this body for advice; such cases must be presented in the let-

ter of correspondence, stating the reasons why it has not, or could not be decided by the church.

ART. 11TH. If any church should have a difficulty with a sister church, we recommend said church to take the gospel steps as directed in the 18th chapter of Matthew; and no difficulty will be entertained by this Association until such steps are taken.

ART. 12TH. When churches of this union have members supposed to possess ministerial gifts, "we recommend them to" call from two or more churches for the aid of their ministers and such other members as the churches may deem most suitable to examine the individuals, and if thought advisable, to authorise such a member or members to preach the gospel—which shall be reported to the association, and entered on the minutes.

ART. 13TH. Any church having a gift she deems worthy of Ordination, shall call a Presbytery of ministers from sister churches to officiate in the work; and all Presbyteries in the ordination of ministers and deacons, or in constituting churches, shall be governed by the abstract of principles of this association.

ART. 14TH.—This association may correspond by letter and delegations, with the Baptist Convention of this State, and with such associations as she may deem most conducive to the general interest of Zion.

ART. 15TH.—The minutes of the association shall be read and corrected, and signed by the moderator and clerk before the session rises; no association shall adjourn, unless in extraordinary cases, until it has finished all its business.

RULES OF DECORUM.

ARTICLE 1st.—The association shall be opened by prayer.

ART. 2d.—The moderator and clerk shall be chosen by the members present by private ballot.

ART. 3d.—The moderator shall be considered the judge of order, but any member not satisfied with his decision may appeal, provided that appeal be made on the same day, but at no subsequent time.

ART. 4th.—The moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as other members, but not to vote unless his vote be necessary to decide the question. If he arises to speak, he shall call on some brother to take the chair.

ART. 5th.—All questions brought before the association shall be introduced by motion, and, if seconded, shall be opened for discussion, unless withdrawn by the mover or his second. When a subject has been taken up and a reasonable time allowed for discussion, the moderator shall take the question by yeas and nays, and if a call for a division be made it shall be decided by the members rising.

ART. 6th.—Any member wishing to speak shall rise and address the moderator. Only one member shall be allowed to speak at the

same time, who shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or make personal reflections.

ART. 7th.—No person shall speak more than once upon any subject until all who wish to speak shall have had an opportunity, nor more than twice upon any subject without permission.

ART. 8th.—Every subject introduced for discussion shall be first decided before another shall be offered, unless it be laid over by motion, with the consent of the mover and association.

ART. 9th.—The association shall in all cases be governed by a majority of the members present, except in the reception of churches, then a unanimous vote shall be required. "But in no case shall one member or church prevent the reception of a church without sufficient cause shown, which shall be determined by a majority."

ART. 10th.—The names of members shall be called whenever the association shall direct, and the absentees marked. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission of the moderator.

ART. 11th.—The appellation of brother shall be used by the members in addressing each other.

ART. 12th.—Any member violating these rules shall be subject to be reproved by the moderator, but only on the day the breach shall have been made.

ART. 13th.—Amendments or alterations may be made to these rules when a majority may deem it necessary.

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES.

1. OF THE SCRIPTURES.—We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, Salvation for its end; and Truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true centre of christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

2. OF THE TRUE GOD.—That there is one, and only one, true and living God, whose name is JEHOVAH, the Maker, and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love, revealed under the personal and relative distinction of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

3. OF THE FALL OF MAN.—That man was created in a state of holiness, under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of satan, and of their own sinful passions, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence or excuse.

4. OF THE WAY OF SALVATION.—That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the law by his personal obedience, and made atonement for our sins by his death; being risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven, and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and all-sufficient Saviour.

5. OF JUSTIFICATION.—That the great Gospel blessing which Christ of his fullness bestows on such as believe in Him, is Justification; that Justification consists in the pardon of sin, and the promise of eternal life, on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through his own redemption and righteousness; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

6. OF THE FREENESS OF SALVATION.—That the blessings of Salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, except his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ, which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation.

7. OF GRACE IN REGENERATION.—That in order to be saved, we must be regenerated or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind, and is effected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation, by the power of the Holy Spirit, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel, and that its proper evidence is found in the holy fruit which we bring forth to the glory of God.

8. OF GOD'S PURPOSE OF GRACE.—That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, prayer praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it is ascertained by its effects in all who believe the Gospel; is the foundation of christian assurance; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence.

9. OF THE PERSEVERANCE OF SAINTS.—That such only are real believers, as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special Providence watches over their welfare, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto Salvation.

10. HARMONY OF THE LAW AND GOSPEL.—That the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just and good; and that the inability which the scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfil its precepts, arises entirely from their

love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of this visible church.

11. OF A GOSPEL CHURCH.—That a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptised believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ, governed by his laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by his word; that its only proper officers are bishops or pastors, and deacons, whose qualifications, claims, and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

12. OF BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER.—That christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Spirit; to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in a crucified, buried and risen Saviour, with its purifying power; that it is pre-requisite to the privilege of a church relation; and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church, by the use of the bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ, preceded always by solemn self-examination.

13. OF THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.—That the first day of the week is the Lord's day or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and recreations; by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public; and by preparation for the rest which remaineth for the people of God.

14. OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT.—That civil government is of divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society;—and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored, and obeyed, except in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the Kings of the earth.

15. OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE WICKED.—That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the spirit of our God, are truly righteous in his esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in his sight wicked, and under the curse, and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

16. OF THE WORLD TO COME.—That the end of this world is approaching; that at the last day, Christ will descend from Heaven, and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place, that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in Heaven or Hell, on principles of righteousness.

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STATISTICAL TABLE.

